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FEB 22 2008

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Michael Scott Probasco :  
Application No. 09/645,376 : DECISION ON PETITION  
Filed: August 24, 2000 :  
Attorney Docket No. 042933/283890 :

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed January 4, 2008, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed July 17, 2006, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on October 18, 2006. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on January 23, 2007.

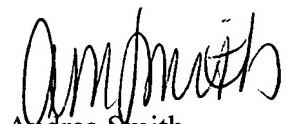
The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an amendment after non-final, (2) the petition fee of \$1540.00, and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. *See In re Application of S.*, 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Since the \$1,050 extension of time fee submitted with the petition on January 4, 2008 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Kimberly Inabinet at (571) 272-4618.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2137 for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the reply received January 4, 2008.



Andrea Smith  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/645,376	08/24/2000	Michael Scott Probasco	042933/283890

**CONFIRMATION NO. 3555**

### POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER



OC000000027923595

826  
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Date Mailed: 01/25/2008

### NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 01/04/2008.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

/kainabinet/

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Office of Initial Patent Examination (571) 272-4000 or 1-800-PTO-9199